Numb. 14.

THE TATLER Revived.

By ISAAC BICKERSTAFF Esq;

——*Incendere Profuit Agros.* VIR.

To be Continued on MONDAYS *and* FRIDAYS.

FRIDAY, *December* 1. 1727.

MY Correſpondents upon the Subject of Love have been ſo numerous, that I am almoſt rempted to think we have been for ſome time paſt in *May*, inſtead of the gloomy Month of *November*. I have already acknowledg'd the Receipt of a Treatiſe on the Paſſion at large; but hope my ingenious Correſpondent will not think himſelf neglected, if I for a little while defer the giving it a place in my Paper. I ſhall at preſent diſpatch a Letter that I have juſt receiv'd; which I ſhall publiſh as it came to my hands without any Alteration. It comes from a Perſon who acknowledges himſelf to be in Love, and yet would fain pretend to be mightily in his Senſes, tho' at the ſame time he ſhows himſelf to be ſo far gone in his Paſſion, as to be come to the making of Verſes; nay, he has the Aſſurance to deſire me to believe, that tho' he is both a Lover and a Poet, yet he hath not ſaid one Syllable but Truth, notwithſtanding his own Idol is the Subject of his Rhapſody. However, as my Gentleman ſeems to talk very plauſibly, and with an Air of Reaſon, I will not too much foreſtall Judgment, but let the Town hear him ſpeak for himſelf.

SIR,

I Have been your conſtant Well-wiſher ever ſince you firſt appeared amongſt us, tho' I have never before attempted to be your Correſpondent. I believe thouſands of others beſides myſelf, who often ſpend an idle Hour at a Coffee-Houſe, will be not a little pleaſed to have a Paper of this nature to help out their Entertainment there; as I cannot but think it much more to the purpoſe (as a Brother-Writer of yours has very juſtly obſerved) to be "acquainted with what is tranſacting in "our own Breaſts, than with what paſſes in "*Muſcovy* or *Perſia*, or even in Places which "are nearer to us.

"I am very glad to find that you have "began to turn your Thoughts to the Fair "Sex, and hope you will now be very fre-"quent in your Addreſſes to them. You "yourſelf ſeem to allow that they beſt de-"ſerve your Care; and I am ſure you will "always find them the moſt kindly Soil, "and what will make the beſt Return to "your Culture. I ſuppoſe by this time "you have pronounced me a Lover, and I "am very far from being aſhamed of my "Chains. Whatever Scandals may have "been raiſed of Peoples always loſing their "Senſes by being in Love, I aſſure you it "has been a Means of bringing me to mine; "and I will affirm, that it is every Man's "own Fault in placing it upon a wrong Ob-"ject, if he does not find the ſame Effect "from this glorious Paſſion. This Aſſertion, "I muſt confeſs, is ſomething out of the com-"mon way of thinking; and therefore, "with your leave, I ſhall endeavour to re-"move the received Prejudices againſt it.

"THERE is not in Human Nature a "more general or ſtronger Principle of Action "than the Deſire of Applauſe: This is an "Affection, which (tho' the outward Ex-"preſſions of it may be as various as the "Educations, the Tempers, and the diffe-"rent Ranks of Men) moſt certainly reigns "in a greater or leſs Degree in almoſt every "Breaſt amongſt us: And as for thoſe few "who are ſo Phlegmatick as not to be af-"fected with it, I may pronounce that they "are the moſt ſtupid and moſt worthleſs

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" Part of Mankind. Nor is this Paſſion " leſs conſiderable for the greatneſs of its " Influence over the Perſons who are actua- " ted by it, than for the number of its Vo- " taries. I believe I am not out of the " way when I affirm, that there is hardly " any one thing whatſoever, which cauſes a " greater difference betwixt one Man and " another, than their having a more refined " or groſſer Taſte in their deſire of Applauſe. " But I muſt draw nearer to the Point in " hand, by ſingling out one of the moſt flou- " riſhing and beſt Branches of this Paſſion; " I mean the Inclination of pleaſing the Fair " Sex, of which very few of the youthful " part of Mankind are inſenſible. As this " is a Principle which is ſo general amongſt " thoſe, who are making their firſt Step on " the great Stage of human Life, and is at " the ſame time ſo very prevalent in the " Breaſts of thoſe it poſſeſſes; I believe it " cannot but be allowed, that when it is di- " rected right, it may produce very excel- " lent Effects in the Behaviour of no little " part of Mankind. This, I think, is ma- " king out what I deſigned: For the Paſſion " of Love will, I believe, be found in a " great meaſure to conſiſt of this very Deſire " of Applauſe from the Female World; " with this only difference, that it is re- " moved from the whole Sex in general, and " placed chiefly upon ſome one particular " Individual of it, and ſo is grown more in- " tenſe, by being contracted into a narrower " compaſs. Whenever therefore you enter " upon the Subject of Love, I hope you " will treat it in a Manner ſuitable to the " Dignity of the Paſſion, and think it worth " your while to employ your very beſt " Thoughts to give a right Turn to that, " which you ſee will have ſo great an Influ- " ence upon the Conduct of Mankind. " This, I believe, will be beſt brought about " by addreſſing yourſelf rather to the Ladies " than the Men. Could you once inculcate " right Notions into their Breaſts, and per- " ſuade them to approve of nothing, but " what is really worthy of their Eſteem; " the Men, whoſe Ambition it is to be in " their Favour, would ſoon find themſelves " obliged to alter their Conduct, and you " would hardly have ſuch a thing as a Fop, " a Coxcomb, or even a Rake in the whole " Town.

" AS I have now talked a pretty deal, and " I hope with a tolerable ſhare of Coherence, " I ſhall take the liberty of ſaying ſome- " thing of the Fair-One which reigns in my " own Breaſt. You will of courſe ſuppoſe that " I am going to tell you that ſhe is Miſtreſs " of more Wit, good Senſe, *&c.* than all " her Sex beſides: but I ſhall give you a " more ſubſtantial Proof of it than barely a " Lover's Word, and make what I have to " ſay of her a Confirmation of what has gone " before, by aſſuring you, that it is to the " happy Influence which my lovely Charmer " has had over me, that I in no little mea- " ſure owe my Reputation, my Fortune, and " almoſt every tolerable good Quality that I " have. As Poetry is the Offſpring of Love, " you muſt excuſe my attempting to draw " her Picture in a few Lines; and if you " will let them have a Place in your Paper, " as a Teſtimony of my Gratitude, I will do " my beſt to ſend you ſomething in Proſe to " make amends for my Verſe, which are " almoſt the firſt, and I believe will be the " laſt of my compoſing.

" *Chearful and Eaſy* CLELIA *ſmiles,*
" *Thoughtleſs of all deſigning Wiles:*
" *Ten thouſand Charms her Face adorn,*
" *A Stranger ſtill to Pride or Scorn:*
" *Whilſt ſprightly Wit and Judgment join,*
" *To make each Thought more pleaſing ſhine:*
" *No mean ill-natur'd Satyr there,*
" *No Affectation does appear.*
" *Here Manlike Senſe and Wiſdom view,*
" *And ev'ry Female Sweetneſs too:*
" *Soft Love with tend'reſt Friendſhip join'd;*
" *But both by Reaſon's Rules confin'd.*
" *O God of Love! preſerve her Heart,*
" *Secure from each ſiniſter Dart:*
" *Her Breaſt with glowing Raptures fill,*
" *Without Alloy of mingled Ill.*
" *Ye Powers of Virtue, may ſhe have*
" *Your circling Pleaſures to the Grave:*
" *In all th' immortal Bliſs then live,*
" *That Love and Innocence can give.*

" THO' perhaps you may think there is " little Poetry in theſe Lines, yet I may " venture to aſſure you, there is ſtill leſs of " Flattery and Untruth; and therefore if " you can let them paſs Muſter, you will " very much oblige

Your moſt Obedient,
Humble Servant,
CYMON the Second.

THE foregoing Letter has placed the Paſſion of Love in a very advantageous, and a very juſt Light: But I muſt take my Thoughts a little lower, and diſpatch ano- ther of my Correſpondents, who very ear- neſtly applies to me for my Advice. His Misfortune is a very common one, for it amounts to no more than this, That if his Miſtreſs and he come together, they muſt ſoon have nothing but Love to maintain them. I do therefore hereby aſſure him that Poverty and Love can never long ſub- ſiſt together, and that the kindeſt thing poſ- *T. W.* can do for his Miſtreſs, as well as the wiſeſt part he can act for himſelf, is never to ſee her more.

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